

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 15 and 16.

Sheet 1: Please insert a "Prior Art" legend in Fig. 15 as shown.

Sheet 2: Please insert a "Prior Art" legend in Fig. 16 as shown.

Attachment: Two (2) Replacement sheets
 Two (2) Annotated sheet showing changes

REMARKS

This communication is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated January 12, 2005 (Paper No./Mail Date 01052005). By this communication, claims 2, 9, 10, 12, 20, and 21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, Figures 15 and 16 have been amended, and claims 1, 3-8, 11, and 13-19 have been amended.

Figures 15 and 16 have been amended to include a "Prior Art" legend. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 has been amended to address formal matters and to recite a timepiece unit; and a main unit, wherein said timepiece unit is swingably connected to said main unit through a hinge, said main unit comprising a registration apparatus; and an identification apparatus, and that both of said registration apparatus and said identification apparatus are covered by a bottom surface of said timepiece. Support for the subject matter added to claim 1 can be found variously throughout the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0123]-[0124] of corresponding U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0126882. No new matter has been added.

Claim 11 has been amended to address formal matters and to recite a fingerprint identification method comprising a timepiece unit and a main unit, said main unit having a registration apparatus and an identification apparatus, the method comprising the steps of swinging said timepiece unit about a hinge so that said registration apparatus and said identification apparatus of said main unit are exposed. Support for the subject matter added to claim 11 can be found variously throughout the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0123]-[0124] of corresponding U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0126882. No new matter has been added.

Claim 14 has been amended to address formal matters and to recite a biometric identification apparatus comprising a timepiece unit; and a main unit, wherein said timepiece unit is swingably attached to said main unit through a hinge. Support for the subject matter added to claim 14 can be found variously throughout the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0123]-[0124] of corresponding U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0126882. No new matter has been added.

Claims 3-8, 13, and 15-19 have been amended to address formal matters. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-8, 11, and 13-19 are pending where claims 1, 11, and 14 are independent.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to for failing to include a “Prior Art” legend. As discussed above, Figures 15 and 16 have been amended to include a “Prior Art” legend. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as indefinite. Claims 2, 9, 10, 12, 20, and 21 have been canceled without prejudice, therefore, the rejection with regard to these claims is moot and should be withdrawn. Applicant has amended claims 1, 3-8, 11, 13, and 14-19 have been amended to recite “first image data,” “first image signal,” “second image data,” and “second image signal,” where applicable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection to these claims under §112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9-12, 14, 16, 20, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by *Brumbley et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,982,913. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a fingerprint identification system comprising a timepiece unit; and a main unit, wherein said timepiece unit is swingably connected to said main unit through a hinge, said main unit comprising a registration apparatus; and an identification apparatus, wherein both of said registration apparatus and said identification apparatus are covered by a bottom surface of said timepiece, said registration apparatus comprising a first fingerprint sensor for reading a fingerprint in a first region of a human finger to output a first image signal representing an image of the fingerprint; first image data generating means for generating first image data of the fingerprint based on the first image signal output from said first fingerprint sensor; and data output means for outputting the first image data generated by said first image data generating means; said identification apparatus comprising data input means for receiving the first image data output from said data output means; storage means for storing the first image data received by said data input means; a second fingerprint sensor for reading a fingerprint in a second region of a human finger, which is smaller than said first region, to output a second image signal representing an image of the fingerprint; second image data generating means for generating second image data of the fingerprint based on the second image signal output from said second

fingerprint sensor; and image identification means for comparing the second image data generated by said second image data generating means against the first image data stored in said storage means to determine whether the fingerprints represented by the first and second image data, respectively, coincide with each other.

Claim 11 recites a fingerprint identification method comprising a timepiece unit and a main unit, said main unit having a registration apparatus and an identification apparatus, the method comprising the steps of swinging said timepiece unit about a hinge so that said registration apparatus and said identification apparatus of said main unit are exposed; controlling said registration apparatus through the steps of: reading a fingerprint in a first region of a human finger by a first fingerprint sensor to output a first image signal representing a first image of the fingerprint; generating first image data of the fingerprint based on the first image signal output in said first image signal output step; and outputting the first image data generated in said first image data generating step; controlling said identification apparatus through the steps of receiving the first image data output in said data output step; storing the first image data received in said data input step in storage means; reading a fingerprint in a second region of a human finger, which is smaller than said first region, by a second fingerprint sensor to output a second image signal representing a second image of the fingerprint generating step for generating second image data of the fingerprint based on the second image signal output in said second image signal output step; and comparing the second image data generated in said second image data generating step against the first image data stored in said storage means to determine whether the fingerprints represented by the first and second image data, respectively, coincide with each other.

Claim 14 recites a biometric identification apparatus comprising a timepiece unit; and a main unit, wherein said timepiece unit is swingably attached to said main unit through a hinge, said main unit comprising storage means for storing first image data representing a first image of biometric information in a first region of a human body; a biometric sensor for reading biometric information in a second region of a human body, which is smaller than said first region, to output an image signal representing a second image of the biometric information; image data generating means for generating second image data of the biometric information based on the image signal output from said biometric sensor; and image identification means for comparing the second image data generated by said image data generating means against the first image

data stored in said storage means to determine whether the biometric information represented by the first and second image data, respectively, coincide with each other.

Each of independent claims 1, 11, and 14 recite a fingerprint or biometric identification apparatus that includes a timepiece unit and a main unit. The timepiece unit being attached to the main unit through a hinge. Moreover, the main unit includes a registration apparatus and/or a identification apparatus that stores a fingerprint of a user, reads a fingerprint of a user, generates an image signal of the read fingerprint, outputs an image based on the image signal, and compares the stored fingerprint against the read fingerprint.

Brumbley discloses a method of fingerprint verification having an apparatus that captures a fingerprint, divides a portion of the fingerprint into segments, records the location of each segment, correlates captured fingerprint with other stored fingerprint, calculate a correlation score for each segment, generate verification based on correlation score, generate threshold vector, and compare a verification vector to threshold vector.

Brumbley, however, fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least a timepiece unit attached to a main unit through a hinge. To properly anticipate a claim, the document must disclose, explicitly or implicitly, each and every feature recited in the claim. *See Verdegall Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of Calif.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). *Brumbley* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest every element recited in independent claims 1, 11, and 12, therefore these claims are not anticipated by *Brumbley*. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 11, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and claim 16 depends from claim 14. By virtue of this dependency, Applicant submits that claims 5 and 16 are allowable for at least the same reasons given above with respect to claims 1 and 14, where applicable. In addition, Applicant submits that claims 5 and 16 are further distinguished over *Brumbley* by the additional elements recited therein, and particularly with respect to each claimed combination. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 5 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Brumbley* in view of *Machida et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,060,756. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1. By virtue of this dependency, Applicant submits that claim 3 is allowable for at least the same reasons given above with respect to claim 1. In addition, Applicant submits that claim 3 is further distinguished over *Brumbley* and *Machida* by the additional elements recited therein, and particularly with respect to each claimed combination. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn, and this claim be allowed.

Claims 4 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Brumbley* in view of *Driscoll, Jr. et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,067,162. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and claim 15 depends from claim 14. By virtue of this dependency, Applicant submits that claims 4 and 14 are allowable for at least the same reasons given above with respect to claims 1 and 14, respectively. In addition, Applicant submits that claims 5 and 14 are further distinguished over *Brumbley* and *Driscoll, Jr.* by the additional elements recited therein, and particularly with respect to each claimed combination. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

Claims 6, 8, 13, 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Brumbley* in view of *Uchida*, Japanese Patent No., JP 2000-23004. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 6 and 8 depend from claim 1, claim 13 depends from claim 11, and claims 17 and 19 depend from claim 14. By virtue of this dependency, Applicant submits that claims 6, 8, 13, 17, and 19 are allowable for at least the same reasons given above with regard to their respective base claims. In addition, Applicant submits that claims 6, 8, 13, 17, and 19 are further distinguished over *Brumbley* and *Uchida* by the additional elements recited therein, and particularly with respect to each claimed combination. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 6, 8, 13, 17, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

Claims 7 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Brumbley* in view of *Uchida* and further in view of *Bunn*, U.S. Patent No. 4,641,350. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and claim 18 depends from claim 14. By virtue of this dependency, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 14 are allowable for at least the same reasons given above with regard to their respective base claims. In addition, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 18 are further distinguished over *Brumbley*, *Uchida*, and *Bunn* by the additional elements recited therein, and particularly with respect to each claimed combination. Applicant respectfully requests, therefore, that the rejection of claims 7 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn, and these claims be allowed.

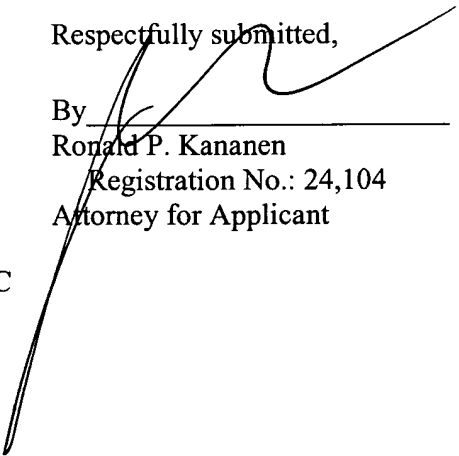
Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-8, 11, and 13-19 are allowable, and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application. In the event the Examiner has any comments or suggestions for placing the application in even better form, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-2346 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: April 12, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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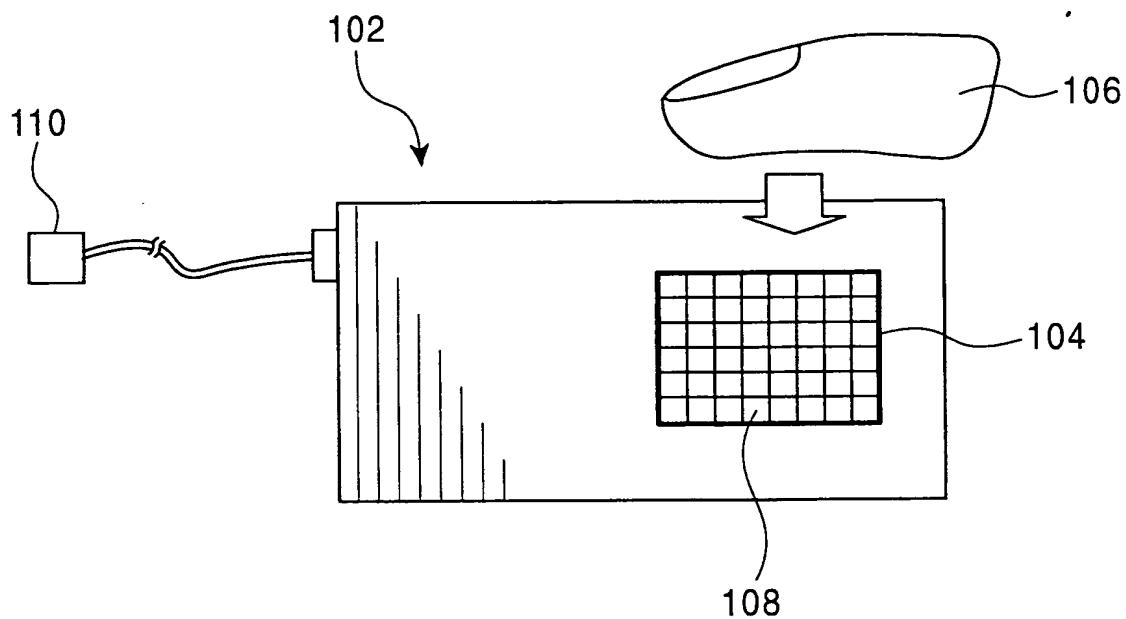
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Annotated Sheet

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FIG. 15



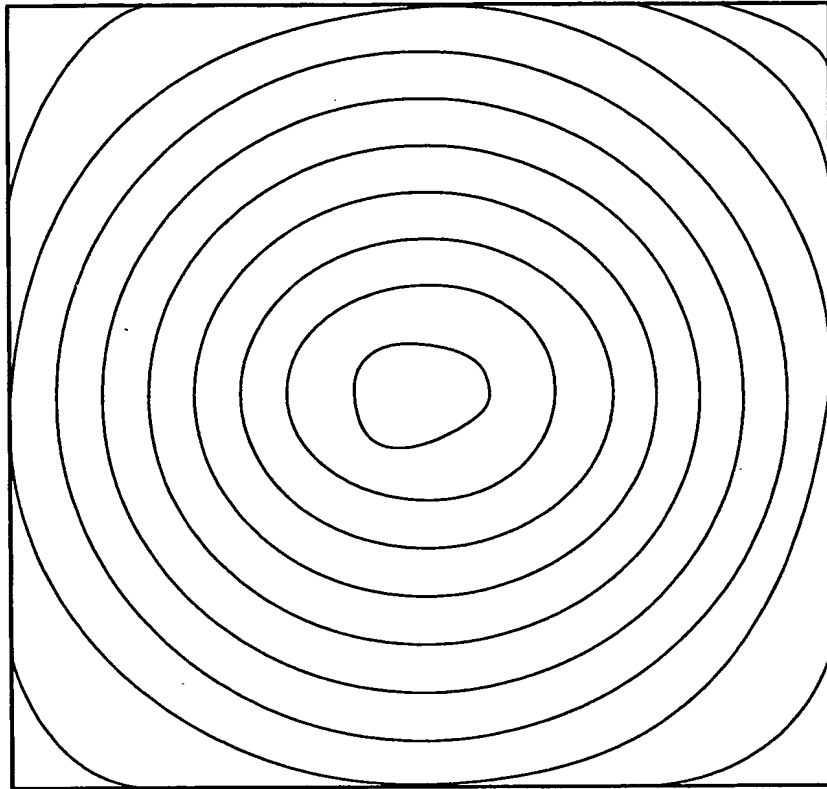
PRIOR ART



Annotated Sheet

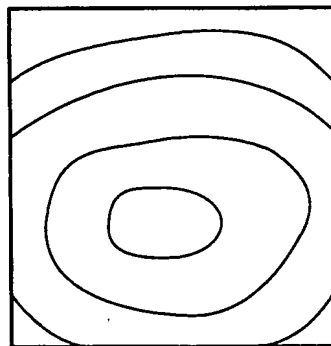
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FIG. 16A



PRIOR ART

FIG. 16B



PRIOR ART